

EXHIBIT 4

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

JOSHUA GLASSCOCK, on)
behalf of himself and)
all others similarly)
situated,)

Plaintiff,

Case No.
22-CV-3095-SRB

VS.

SIG SAUER, INC.,

Defendant .

VIDEOTAPED 30(b)(6) DEPOSITION OF SIG

SAUER, INC., VIA MATTHEW TAYLOR, taken pursuant to notice before Beth Gaige, RPR, and licensed court reporter in the State of New Hampshire at the offices of AC Hotels Marriott, 299 Vaughan Street, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on September 10, 2024, commencing at 9:03 a.m.

1 Q. In your discussions with Mr. Toner in advance
2 of today's deposition, what did you learn from
3 him?

4 **A. Timelines of when things happened. A lot of**
5 **it is refreshing my memory. Also details**
6 **related to the voluntary upgrade program and**
7 **MHS shipments. Things of that nature.**

8 Q. And this will be a running thing throughout.
9 I know that acronyms are always popular with
10 every company, but lawyers hate them. And so
11 we always have to define as we go along.

12 When you refer to an MHS, what is that?

13 **A. Modular Handgun System.**

14 Q. What does that mean?

15 **A. That was the opportunity with the army which**
16 **resulted in our being awarded the contract for**
17 **the M17 and M18.**

18 Q. And so when we refer to the MHS or the Modular
19 Handgun System, that is referring to the
20 specific weapon and design specifications that
21 ultimately became the military's adopted
22 pistol, correct?

23 **A. There was a product requirements document that**
24 **we developed the products to, yes.**

25 Q. Okay. And if I've done my job correctly,

1 and -- and accepting those responsibilities of
2 knowing how to use or carry it safely.

3 Q. But as to the question of manual safety, do
4 you think it can help ensure safer handling?

5 A. It could augment safer handling.

6 Q. And do you think that augmentation could
7 ensure safer handling?

8 A. Not necessarily. Again it comes down to how
9 the user interfaces with the firearm.

10 Q. Do you agree it is advantageous to have a
11 safety mechanism designed that provides two
12 distinct positions, safe and fire?

13 A. Could you repeat the question, please?

14 Q. Of course.

15 Do you agree that it is advantageous to
16 have a safety mechanism designed that provides
17 two distinct positions, safe and fire?

18 MR. JOYCE: Objection to form.

19 You can answer.

20 A. I think that some users and some law
21 enforcement agencies and other parties view it
22 as advantageous, and there are others which do
23 not view it as advantageous to have as a
24 feature set on a firearm.

25 BY MR. WERTS:

1 Q. And this is one of those you're Sig Sauer.

2 Do you think it's advantageous?

3 A. I think it can be advantageous when it is what
4 the customer wishes to have.

5 There are potential downsides in a life
6 or death situation of a manual safety in the
7 time to actually, the safety, to disengage it
8 may add to the time required to fire a shot,
9 if needed.

10 Q. Is Sig Sauer aware of any instance where a
11 user's inability to take the pistol off of a
12 manual safety impacted their ability to use a
13 Sig Sauer pistol to defend themselves?

14 A. I do not know the answer to that question.

15 Q. What steps has Sig Sauer ever undertaken to
16 determine whether there is any validity to the
17 position that the time to take a pistol off
18 manual safety would have any impact in a
19 self-defense situation?

20 A. I am not aware of specific steps Sig Sauer has
21 taken, but I am aware of the fact that there
22 are Sig Sauer customers who do not want manual
23 safeties on their firearms and have included
24 such in product requirement specifications.

25 Q. So you've got the customer -- we'll come back

1 **A. Not currently.**

2 Q. Have they in the past?

3 **A. I don't know the answer to that definitively.**

4 Q. Was the P250 an internal or external hammer?

5 **A. The P250 hammer was visible. However, it did**
6 **not have a hammer spur that you could easily**
7 **actuate by hand.**

8 Q. Would you agree with me that a manual safety
9 is critical in preventing unintended firing of
10 a weapon?

11 MR. JOYCE: Objection to form.

12 **A. No.**

13 BY MR. WERTS:

14 Q. What is a grip -- or I guess we got our
15 definitions. I said I wasn't going to do that
16 to you.

17 If you go back to page four, please?

18 **A. (Witness complying.)**

19 Q. So grip safety it defines as primarily a
20 feature of 1911-style handguns. Grip safety
21 is a mechanical device build into the rear
22 portion of a grip that prevents the pistol
23 from firing unless it is firmly grasped.

24 Do you see that?

25 **A. I do see that.**

1 **A. I do. His first name was Tim, and he was in**
2 **product management at Sig Sauer.**

3 Q. What is product management?

4 **A. Product management is a group that helps**
5 **define what products we should develop as a**
6 **company and what feature sets, and they should**
7 **have, in some cases, what requirements they**
8 **should meet.**

9 Q. Was that part of the marketing department?

10 **A. Is it independent from marketing, but in some**
11 **ways is a similar function.**

12 Q. But it is not part of Mr. Thomele's
13 engineering department, is it?

14 **A. Product management does not report to Mr.**
15 **Thomele.**

16 Q. Or Thomele, I'm sorry.

17 Who does product management report?

18 **A. Currently the head of that group would be**
19 **Robbie Johnson.**

20 Q. What is Mr. Johnson's title?

21 **A. I cannot recall that specifically because it**
22 **is very lengthy. But he is in charge of**
23 **product management, but he also oversees**
24 **functions at the SIG Experience Center. He**
25 **has a host of responsibilities.**

1 **production blade trigger.**

2 Q. Either to consumers, law enforcement or the
3 military. True?

4 **A. Not to my knowledge.**

5 Q. Though there is a rendering in the lower
6 right-hand corner of page 32 that would show
7 what that would look like, right?

8 **A. It's showing one incarnation, yes.**

9 Q. And then the manual thumb safety levers, that
10 was originally an optional device. It still
11 is, correct?

12 **A. Yes. Manual thumb safety is still optional.**
13 **It looks in the production versions a little**
14 **different than what see in the bottom left**
15 **picture, but yes.**

16 Q. And that's an optional safety device for some
17 models of the P320 but not all, correct?

18 **A. We have not produced it as an option for all**
19 **models, yes.**

20 Q. And then the magazine safety, we talked about
21 that.

22 That's just for the California compliant
23 pistols, right?

24 **A. The California compliant pistols are the only**
25 **ones, to my knowledge, that we have produced**

1 works, correct?

2 **A. That's correct.**

3 Q. Doesn't have any impact on how the sear works.

4 **A. Correct.**

5 Q. Doesn't have any impact on any of the things
6 that make the gun go bang and work. True?

7 **A. Yes. There is very slight -- it takes a very**
8 **slightly higher force to -- to chamber the**
9 **round because you have lift the flag against**
10 **its spring to get the rim of the cartridge up**
11 **to be chambered, but outside of that it**
12 **doesn't impact function.**

13 Q. But the functionality has more than enough
14 force to -- or energy built in to be able to
15 accomplish that, right?

16 **A. It does.**

17 Q. Here's a term that we've kind of talked past,
18 which is tool-less disassembly.

19 What does that mean?

20 **A. I am sorry. What page are you on?**

21 Q. Oh, I'm sorry. Turn to page 33.

22 **A. (Witness complying). So that's referring**
23 **to -- disassembly would be what we call field**
24 **stripping where the slide, barrel and recoil**
25 **spring is removed from the grip module and**

1 fire control unit. That's the disassembly
2 being referenced.

3 Tool-less means just that. No tools are
4 required.

5 And when we say safe, part of what we
6 were intending was that no actuation of
7 trigger would be required by the user to
8 accomplish this, and it would be -- no extra
9 steps was our objective. It's just as a
10 matter of the procedure for field stripping or
11 disassembling the slide and barrel that it was
12 safe and tool-less.

13 Q. And the tool-less nature of the P320 extends
14 as far as we don't need tools to even swap out
15 fire control units from one pistol frame grip
16 to another, correct?

17 A. It is correct that you do not need tools to
18 swap a fire control unit from one grip module
19 to another. However, I don't believe that is
20 what is being referenced in this page.

21 Q. That's true. I distinctively asked that just
22 to take that off our list while we're taking
23 about tool-lessness.

24 A. Mm-hmm.

25 Q. But we're in violent agreement on that, right?

1 project names, but combining those into one
2 project, to my knowledge that was the first
3 striker fired pistol design he worked on.

4 Q. Anyone on your design team have any experience
5 designing a striker fired pistol?

6 A. Not to my knowledge.

7 Q. So we talked about that there are certain
8 models of the P320 that are not in production
9 for having a manual safety.

10 Do you recall that?

11 A. There are certain models of the P320 in
12 production that do not have manual safeties.

13 Q. Correct.

14 Specifically we talked about the carry,
15 as an example. You can't get a manual safety
16 on a carry currently.

17 A. Okay.

18 Q. Is that true?

19 A. I don't recall.

20 Q. Was it the design engineering's team decision
21 of which variants of the P320 were going to be
22 available with the manual safety and which
23 were not?

24 A. It was not.

25 Q. Whose was it?

1 **A. I would say that would have come to product**
2 **management probably with input from marketing.**

3 Q. We talked about those hazard risk assessments
4 earlier.

5 Do you recall that?

6 **A. I do.**

7 Q. Was the marketing department or the product
8 management department involved in those
9 discussions?

10 **A. I don't recall.**

11 Q. In your time at Sig Sauer, has anyone from
12 product management or marketing ever been
13 involved in a hazard risk assessment for any
14 product?

15 **A. I don't recall specifics. In terms of general**
16 **conversations, I am sure there have been**
17 **discussions with product management about**
18 **safety-related features, but I don't recall**
19 **anything specific.**

20 Q. Prior to the P320 every pistol that Sig Sauer
21 ever made had a manual safety on it, correct?

22 MR. JOYCE: Can you repeat that question?

23 MR. WERTS: Sure.

24 BY MR. WERTS:

25 Q. Prior to the P320 every pistol that Sig Sauer

1 **Certainly there are other striker fired**
2 **pistols of similar nature to the 320 that**
3 **don't have manual safeties. And the tab**
4 **trigger viewed as a safety is really largely**
5 **about drop safety. That's not the best place**
6 **to try to incorporate a manual safety**
7 **characteristic of some trigger block.**

8 BY MR. WERTS:

9 Q. When the P320 was developed, were you aware
10 that the Sig Sauer P320 was going to be the
11 first striker fired pistol that was pre-cocked
12 that did not have any sort of manual safety on
13 it?

14 MR. JOYCE: Asked and answered.

15 You can answer again.

16 **A. I -- there were other partially cocked striker**
17 **fired pistols on the market without manual**
18 **safeties when we developed the P320.**

19 BY MR. WERTS:

20 Q. None of those pistols were 97 percent or more
21 pre-cocked though, were they?

22 **A. I don't know the answer to that.**

23 Q. What steps did Sig Sauer take to investigate
24 that question?

25 **A. I don't know that we tried to answer what**

1 the discussions I can't say exactly, other
2 than those people would have likely been
3 participating.

4 Q. Do you know whether there was any e-mail
5 correspondence about the safety
6 characteristics of the P320 during its design
7 development?

8 A. I don't recall that one way or the other.

9 Q. Have you looked?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Whether for this case or any other litigation
12 that's been going the last several years, have
13 you ever been asked to look for those
14 documents?

15 A. No, not that I recall.

16 Q. As part of the voluntary upgrade program, was
17 any effort to perform any sort of hazard and
18 risk assessment or analysis in developing what
19 was to become the voluntary upgrade program?

20 A. The voluntary upgrade program design changes
21 were intended to improve the safety
22 characteristics of the P320. I am not
23 knowledgeable about specific discussions that
24 were had pertaining to different aspects of
25 safety characteristics or the level...

1 Q. But the voluntary upgrade activities did not
2 begin until August of 2017, correct?

3 A. That is not correct. August 2017 is when the
4 launch of the -- the voluntary upgrade program
5 and the production of pistols with those
6 designs in them started, but the -- the
7 content and the testing that was behind the
8 voluntary upgrade changes started much earlier
9 than that.

10 Q. But nothing had gone into production until
11 after Omaha Outdoors published its piece
12 regarding the P320, correct?

13 MR. JOYCE: Objection to form.

14 You can answer.

15 A. I don't recall the date that that Omaha video
16 was published. I don't have that in my head
17 in the timeline for where that was.

18 BY MR. WERTS:

19 Q. The Omaha Outdoors publication was in August
20 of 2017.

21 Do you have any reason to dispute that?

22 A. In that I don't recall when it was, no, I
23 don't have reason to dispute that.

24 August of 2017 was also when we launched
25 the voluntary upgrade program and started

1 performing upgrades and producing P320s with
2 that design incorporated.

3 Q. All of those changes were made within a week
4 or two of the Omaha Outdoors public video,
5 correct?

6 MR. JOYCE: Objection to form. Asked and
7 answered. He testified with respect to the
8 process.

9 But you can answer it again.

10 A. I don't know how many weeks or what the time
11 span between was, but I know that within the
12 month of August 2017 the launch of the
13 voluntary upgrade program happened and
14 production of pistols with those components
15 started.

16 BY MR. WERTS:

17 Q. All right. Let's take a look at this FMECA.

18 Are you able to read that or do I need to
19 bump it up a little bit?

20 A. I think I can make it out.

21 Q. Okay. So orient us to this document. We're
22 on the first tab, which is FMECA.

23 What does -- how does one read this?

24 A. So in the left-hand column obviously is
25 potential modes of failure as the header

1 target will be hit and not something else.

2 Q. What do you base that on?

3 A. Experience shooting guns with heavy trigger
4 pulls and shooting guns with lighter trigger
5 pulls.

6 Q. And we talked a little bit earlier about Sig
7 Sauer understanding that it was going to be
8 selling the P320 for -- for -- to the general
9 public for personal use.

10 Do you recall that -- those questions we
11 had earlier?

12 A. I do. It was intended for commercial public
13 use, but it was also designed with the intent
14 that it would be used by law enforcement and
15 potentially military.

16 Q. And within those design use cases Sig Sauer
17 intended it, it being the P320, to be an
18 everyday carry gun for consumers, correct?

19 A. I -- certainly intended for personal
20 protection as well as duty carry. Certainly
21 it can include everyday carry.

22 Q. And it was also intended for storage as a home
23 defense weapon, as well, correct?

24 A. Sure.

25 Q. Since the voluntary upgrade program Sig Sauer

1 information?

2 MR. JOYCE: Objection. Overbroad.

3 You can answer.

4 **A. I mean it's certainly one of the**
5 **specifications that we have met when selling**
6 **product to the military.**

7 BY MR. WERTS:

8 Q. Okay. And does Sig consider the military's
9 description of safety systems to be accurate?

10 MR. JOYCE: Objection. Overbroad.

11 **A. That is too broad for me to answer.**

12 BY MR. WERTS:

13 Q. Why?

14 **A. We would have to review what all of those**
15 **statements are and then assess each**
16 **individually.**

17 Q. And so you leave open the possibility that Sig
18 Sauer may disagree with the army on firearm
19 safety?

20 **A. Well, for example, the army required the**
21 **manual safety on the M17 and M18, and we**
22 **certainly recognize that not all users and/or**
23 **consumers have that belief and not all of them**
24 **want manual safety, as an example. So, no I**
25 **don't think I would agree that those**

1 A. I do not know what the extent of government
2 testing on that matter has been or what
3 documentation they have behind those
4 statements, but clearly it is supported by the
5 fact that the inclusion of a manual safety on
6 the M17 and M18 for MHS submissions was there.

7 Q. And we know from our prior discussion that Sig
8 Sauer has not done any testing to determine
9 whether or not a manual safety is critical to
10 prevent unintended firing of a weapon. True?

11 A. A manual safety can certainly augment safe
12 handling of a firearm, but manual safeties and
13 other safety devices are -- are simply that,
14 augmentation to safe handling practices.

15 Q. And what testing has Sig Sauer undertaken to
16 evaluate and form a basis for that statement?

17 A. There has been all kinds of testing done by
18 other -- other customers besides the army with
19 P320s that don't have manual safeties.

20 Q. And that's testing by customers. I am asking
21 about what testing Sig Sauer did for itself.

22 A. We -- we have testified P320s without manual
23 safeties. I couldn't even hazard a guess to
24 how many different P320s, and to my knowledge
25 we've never had an unintentional discharge on

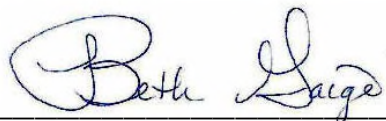
1 STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

2 I, Beth Gaige, RPR, and licensed court
3 reporter in the State of New Hampshire, do hereby
4 certify that the within-named deponent was sworn
5 to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
6 but the truth in the aforementioned cause of
7 action.

8 I further certify that this deposition was
9 stenographically reported by me and later reduced
10 to print through computer-aided transcription, and
11 the foregoing is a full and true record of the
12 testimony given by the deponent.

13 I further certify that I am a disinterested
14 person in the event or outcome of the above-named
15 cause of action.

16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
17 hand this 16th day of September, 2024.

18
19
20 

21 Beth Gaige, LCR/RPR
22 New Hampshire Lic. No: 00153
23
24
25